

# Obituaries

## John Chambers

John R. Chambers, 72, of Tuscola, passed away at 7:34 a.m., Monday, March 20, 2023, at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

Private Family Mass of Christian Burial was held on Saturday, March 25, at the Forty Martyrs Catholic Church with Father Angel Sierra as celebrant. Burial with military graveside rites was held at the Fairland-Jordan Cemetery, rural Villa Grove. No visitation was held.

John was born on February 6, 1951, in Tuscola, the son of Ray and Helen Hausmann Chambers. He married Melanie Riddle on June 28, 1980. She survives.

Also surviving are his sons, Jonathan (Jessica) Chambers of Villa Grove and Chad (Shannon) Chambers of Louisiana; grandchildren, Landon, Lily and Madison; great-granddaughter, Scout; sisters, Angie (Scott) Gordon and Jackie (Darren) Stenger, both of Tuscola; sister-in-law, Carol Chambers of Bloomington.

He was preceded by his parents; and brother, Chet Chambers.

John served his country in



Chambers

the United States Air Force from 1969 to 1973, where he served as a crew chief for the F-4 Phantom. He served Douglas County as a deputy and chief deputy and was the Douglas County Sheriff for 10 years. John graduated from the Illinois State Police Academy Basic Law Enforcement Class, FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va., National Sheriff's Institute in Longmont, Colo. He was appointed warden of the Danville Correctional Center in 2004. In 2007, he became the Chief of Criminal Investigations for the Illinois

Department of Revenue, retiring in 2013.

John was proud to have served as the county's first D.A.R.E. officer and with Crime Stoppers of Douglas County.

He was a member of Forty Martyrs Catholic Church, Illinois Sheriff's Association and Tuscola Moose Lodge #729.

John enjoyed fishing, working in the yard, and he loved Illini Basketball and the LA Dodgers.

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society or Douglas County Animal Shelter.

The family would like to thank the Carle staff of the 7th and 8th floor, Dr. Main, Miranda, Madeline, Max, Linda, Mickey and Sam for taking such good care of John while he was hospitalized.

They would also like to give a very special thank you to Christie Clinic doctors, Dr. Deem, Dr. Naegele, and Dr. Kamin for taking such good care of him over the last four years.

Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Tuscola, assisted the family with the arrangements. Online condolences may be shared via [hilligossshraderfh.com](http://hilligossshraderfh.com).

## Dennis Hanner

Dennis R. Hanner, 79, of Tuscola, passed away suddenly on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at the Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

Funeral services were held Friday, March 24, at the Hilligoss Shrader Funeral Home, Tuscola, with Pastor Glen Rhodes officiating. Burial was in the Cartwright Cemetery, rural Tuscola. Visitation was held at the funeral home prior to the service.

Dennis was born on August 19, 1943, in Charleston, the son of Ralph Irwin and Kathryn Cochran Hanner. He married Marianne Romine on March 3, 1984, at the Lake Fork Church, rural Atwood. They recently celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary. She survives.

Also surviving are his children, April Vernetta Pal and husband Robert of Chestnut, Spike (Shannon) Hanner of Atwood, and Kathryn Joel Dorothea Hunney of Sugar Grove; grandchildren, Shepherd, Jonah, Dustin, Oliver, Selah,

Stormy and Tobiah; siblings, Joy (Robert) Fay of Atwood, Sandra (Mark) Whitley of Chatham, Thomas (Staci) Hanner of Channahon; several nieces and nephews; brothers-in-law, Bruce (Janie Trammel) Romine of Tuscola, Jeff (De) Romine and David (DeDe) Romine, both of Albuquerque, N.M.; and sister-in-law, Cheryl (Bill) Siems of Urbana.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and brother, Charles Richard Hanner.

Dennis was a graduate of Lincoln Christian College and was an ordained minister. He was the full-time minister at the Zion United Church of Christ, rural Arthur, for seven years and continued to minister once a month there. He would also minister at the Tuscola First Christian Church.

Dennis worked many jobs over the years. He was a truck driver for R & K Sales, forklift operator at Associated Transfer and Storage, Douglas County Hearing Aids, real estate agent for the Hillard Agency and sales clerk for Dick's Sporting Goods.



Hanner

He was a member of the Arthur Ministerial Alliance and Lake Fork Sportsman Club. He enjoyed spending time with his wife and family members, golfing, hunting, fishing, playing games and eating ice cream.

Memorials are suggested to the American Heart Association. Online condolences may be shared via [hilligossshraderfh.com](http://hilligossshraderfh.com).

## Tom Stables

Thomas Robert Stables, 90, of Bethany, passed away 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 24, 2023, at Fair Haven Christian Home, Decatur.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 31, at McMullin-Young Funeral Home, Bethany. Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, March 30, at McMullin-Young Funeral Home, Bethany, with Masonic Rites held at 7 p.m. by the George A. Sentel Masonic Lodge #764, Sullivan. Burial will be in Arthur Cemetery, Arthur. In lieu of flowers; memorials may be made to the Scholarship Fund at George A. Sentel Masonic Lodge #764 Sullivan.

Tom was born October 15, 1932, in Buckley, the son of James and Helen (Mayes) Stables. He graduated from Bethany High School in 1951.

He married Myra Reeve of Sullivan in 1954; she preceded him in death in 1994. He later married Maryland Kay Von Lanken in March of 1997; she preceded him in death in July of 2019. Tom was a member of the George A. Sentel Masonic Lodge #764 Sullivan; the Springfield Shrine, and he was a former Boy Scout Leader. He worked at Caterpillar from 1951-1952. He then worked for Illinois Power Company from 1954-1969 as a tree trimmer; he also received an award from the company for saving the life of a family from a house fire. He helped on the family farm and later went to work for ADM Decatur as a truck driver from 1981-1996. Tom worked at Strike Force Security in California from 1997-2010 for movies and parties. Tom returned to Bethany in October of 2019.

Tom is survived by his son,



Stables

Stanley (Jean) Stables of Decatur.

He was preceded in death by his parents; wives; and one sister.

Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.mcmullinyoung.com](http://www.mcmullinyoung.com).

## Jim Jurgens

James Byron "Jim" Jurgens, 81, of Arthur, passed away peacefully in Arthur, on Saturday, March 18, 2023.

He was born on December 31, 1941, in Urbana, to Ervin L. Jurgens and Dorothy B. Jurgens. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Patricia; son, David (Mary) Jurgens of Sanibel Island, Fla.; daughter, Jennifer (Thomas) Murphy of Charleston, S.C.; daughter, Kathryn Lofy of Kirkland, Wash.; and son Michael (Melissa) Jurgens of Riverside; grandchildren, Jack Jurgens, Hailey Jurgens, Taylor Jurgens, Gavin Murphy, Parker Murphy, Connor Lofy, Kyle Lofy, Ella Jurgens, Henry Jurgens and Hazel Jurgens; one sister, Janet Winningham of Arcola. Jim attended Arthur High School, Culver Academy, Northwestern University ('64), and the University of Illinois Law School ('67).

When Jim was in college at Northwestern University, he took a class from Bergen Evans, a popular literature professor and television personality. The book that stuck with him most was a satire, *Candide*, written by Voltaire. It was a tale of an innocent young man who was trying to find a philosophy that would guide him through life. In the end, after much suffering, he decides that it was simply best to "cultivate his own garden"—to find something you love and do it well. That phrase, repeat-



Jurgens

ed frequently by Jim throughout life, guided him or simply matched what was bred in him as he grew up in Arthur.

His life revolved around dedication to work and his own beloved family. His first career of 32 years was spent at the First National Bank of Chicago in the Law Department. A fellow banker said, "He was far and away the best bank attorney that I ever worked with providing solid advice. He was always so intent in assuring that we charted the right path in whatever it was we were working on to assure that we did the right thing."

After that, he embarked on a second career of almost 20 years in the State Bank of Arthur following in his father's footsteps. Jim found great satisfaction in thoroughly throwing himself into his job and doing it in the best way

he could. Only COVID-19 sent him into retirement at the age of 78.

Jim adored his family—wife of 57 years, four children and spouses and 10 grandchildren spread all over the country from Seattle to Chicago to South Carolina to Florida to Arizona and Michigan. Family holidays and trips were the highlight of his life. He also loved Arthur, from his nurturing experience in the Class of 1960 with great classmates to his return to live on the actual prairie in his Prairie style Frank Lloyd Wright house. Jim raved about the view, marveling in its picturesque flat expanse of blue sky and fertile farmland. Jim did indeed use the talents he was given to work hard and to "cultivate his own garden"—not a bad life philosophy to emulate.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 31, from 4-6 p.m. at the Arthur United Methodist Church, 128 E. Illinois Street. His life will be celebrated at 11 a.m. at the Arthur United Methodist Church. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Arthur Home in Jim's memory, 423 Eberhardt Drive, Arthur, Illinois 61911. The staff there patiently cared for Jim and supported Patty. Shrader Funeral Home, Arthur, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences to the family may be shared at [www.hilligossshraderfh.com](http://www.hilligossshraderfh.com).

## Dave Pantier

David E. "Dave" Pantier, 75, of Hammond, passed away suddenly on Monday morning, March 20, 2023, at Decatur Memorial Hospital, Decatur.

Private graveside services will be held at the Hammond Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Dave was born on October 29, 1947, in Springfield, the son of Robert D. Pantier and Ruth Elizabeth Todd Miller. He married Freda May on March 25, 1967 in Petersburg. She survives.

Also surviving are his sons, Robert Eugene (Kimberly) Pantier of Sullivan, Jason David (Lynnette) Pantier of Hammond and Chad David (Jodie) Pantier



Pantier

of Marion; grandchildren, Nick, Eric, Ryan, Morgan, Brady, Cassidee, Dalton and Chloe; great-granddaughters, Emma, Ella, Ava and

## Glen Gingerich

Glen E. Gingerich, 66, of Arthur, passed away at 5:55 p.m. on Friday, March 17, 2023, at his residence, surrounded by family.

Visitation was held Sunday, March 19, at Sunnyside Mennonite Church in rural Arcola. Visitation was also held Monday, March 20, at Sunnyside. Funeral services were held March 21, at Sunnyside Mennonite Church. Pastor Brian Petersheim officiated. Burial was in the Sunnyside Mennonite Church Cemetery.

Glen was born on February 24, 1957, in Tuscola, a son of Elva W. and Sovilla A. (Mast) Gingerich. He married Eloise (Diener) on June 18, 1977, at Pleasant View Church in Arcola.

Glen is survived by his wife, Eloise; four children, Anita Eshleman and her husband Brian of Kinzers, Pa., Galen Gingerich and his wife Lisa of Richland, Pa., Rachel Hershey and her husband Milton of Elnora, Ind., and Amanda Wenger and her husband Bryce of Orville, Ohio; eight grandchildren, Caden, Derek and Faith

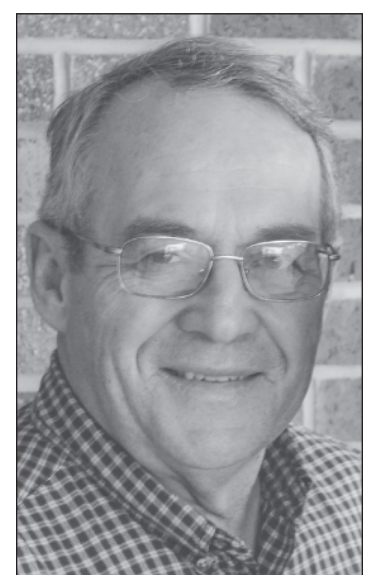
Eshleman, Charlotte and Sofia Gingerich, Philip and Peter Hershey, Eleanor Wenger, and also a grandson due to be born into the Wenger family next month; his father, Elva W. Gingerich of Arthur; four siblings, Dannie Gingerich and his wife Laura of Arthur, Mary Gingerich of Sullivan, Steve Gingerich and his wife Karen of Sullivan, and Duane Gingerich and his wife Tammi of Sullivan; nieces and nephews; his father-in-law, Dannie Diener of Lovington; and brothers and sisters-in-law; as well as nieces and nephews from the Diener family.

Glen was preceded in death by his mother, Sovilla Gingerich; and his mother-in-law, Irma Diener.

Glen was a member of the North Vine Mennonite Church.

Glen taught at Arthur Mennonite School in the late 1970s and early 1980s. He farmed with Gingerich Farms from 1985 to 1995. In 1995, he and his wife started their own trucking company, G & E Transport. Glen semi-retired in 2022.

Glen genuinely loved peo-



Gingerich

ple and had a fun sense of humor. He was always willing to help anyone in need, and was very generous with his time, talents and resources. He enjoyed woodworking, auctioneering and reading.

Glen loved the Lord and made serving the Lord and sharing the gospel a priority. He also loved and cherished his wife, children, and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed.